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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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| COUNTRY | Korea | REPORT NO. | [REDACTED] 25X1A |
| SUBJECT | Haenam Salt Field, Hwanghae Province | DATE DISTR. | 17 February 1954 |
| DATE OF INFO. | [REDACTED] | NO. OF PAGES | 1 |
| PLACE ACQUIRED | [REDACTED] | REQUIREMENT NO. | RD |
| | | REFERENCES | |

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
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SOURCE:

1. In mid-March 1953 the Haenam Salt Field at Haenam-ni (N 37-46, E 126-09) (BS-495825) was placed under the jurisdiction of the Salt Control Department of the North Korean Ministry of Light Industry. In September 1953 the field was managed by PANG Tok-su (2455/1795/4423), aged 40, a member of the Labor Party. There were 30 staff employees in the Labor, Production, Finance, and Supply Sections, and in the Workers' Union.
2. On 20 September large-scale reconstruction of the field was begun. Three hundred laborers, most of them former residents of the Kangwon Province front-line area, completed the reconstruction by 18 October. After the banks which encircled two square kilometers of the field were repaired, five tractors were used for 3 days to level the field. The water gates were repaired, and 3 large motors and 17 water pumps were installed. Crisscross water supply trenches were connected by bridges. Narrow-gauge tracks were laid for hand-pushed cars. Tobacco was sprayed as an insecticide.
3. When the Korean war started, the South Koreans left 200,000 bags of salt in eight piles at the field. During the war a little of the salt was transported occasionally from the field by ox carts and trucks. Most of the salt remained there, however, because of the shortage of trucks. In November 1953, 10 to 15 trucks of the Land Transportation Business Office made three trips daily to carry the salt from the field.
4. In order to increase salt production, the 300 laborers were grouped into five teams which were sub-divided into six units each. They were paid 40 won a day and received 800 grams of grain a day. Each member of their family received a daily ration of 300 grams of grain. They also received a ration of dried fish and tobacco.

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